

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-05

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 /097 W

----- 003460

P 311030Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3866

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBAYQY SEOUL

AOEMBASSY SOFIA 005

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NK, MR

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN MAURITANIA

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 1048 (NOTAL)

1. NORNH KOREJU PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG, WIFE, AND LARGE
OFFICIAL PARTY ARRIVED NOUAKCHOTT IN TWO SEPARATE PLANES LATE
AFTERNOON MAY 30. GIRM HAS PULLED OUT ALL STOPS IN EFFORT TO
OFFER IMPRESSIVE WELCOME. PRESIDENT AND MRS. OULD DADDAH,
MANY SENIOR OFFICIALS, AND AMBASSADORS OF COUNTRIES WHICH
HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA GREETED KIM IL SUNG
UPON ARRIVAL. VISITING PRESIDENT RECEIVED 21 GUN SALUTE.
LARGE CROWDS LINED ROAD FROM AIRPORT TO PRESIDENT OULD
DADDAH'S RESIDENCE. (MANY PERSONS WERE TRUCKED FROM OUTLYING
AREAS TO PARADE ROUTE BY GOVERNMENT.) FLAGS OF BOTH COUNTRIES
AND BANNERS BEDECK MAIN ROADS OF NOUAKCHOTT. RADIO MAURITANIE
PROVIDED CONTINUING BLOW-BY-BLOW COVERAGE OF ARRIVAL.

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ANNOUNCERS LACED COMMENTARY WITH EXPRESSIVE ADJECTIVES

AND PHRASES SUCH AS THIS IS /HISTORIC MOMENT".

2. WE WISH TO CORRECT REMARK CONTAINED ALGIERS 1264 CONCERNING NORTH KOREAN REPRESENTATION IN MAURITANIA. NORTH KOREA NOT ONLY HAS FULL-FLEDGED DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN NOUAKCHOTT, BUT RESIDENT NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR IS DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

3. IN AMUSING SIDE LIGHT, VI/T EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY (WHO HAD ALREADY LEARNED THROUGH HIS CHANNELS THAT KIM WAS COMING HERE) ASKED NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR SEVERAL DAYS AGO IF PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG WAS SCHEDULED TO COME TO MAURITAIA. NORTH KOREAN, IN OUTWARD DISPLAY OF SINCERITY, REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW. SOVIET FIRST SECRETARY SUBSEQUENTLY COMMENTED TO EMBOFF "THAT'S THE LAST TIME I AM GOING TO ASK HIM ANYTHING."

4. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST VISIT TO MAURIRRNIA BY NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT ALTHOUGH BOTH PRESIDENT AND MRS. OULD DADDAH VISITED NORTH KOREA MOST RECENTLY IN SEPTEMBER 1974. KIM IL SUNG'S STOP IN NOUAKCHOTT IS ALMOST CERTAINLY DESIGNED IN PART AS RETURN VISIT. WE ARE NOT SURE HOW LONG KIM IL SUNG INTENDS TO REMAIN IN MAURITANIA ALTHOUGH BEST INFORMATION INDICATES HE WILL DEPART MORNING OF JUNE 1. HANDYSIDE

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